June 1, 2011 Crop Production Forecast
For immediate release: June 9, 2011
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Based on June 1 conditions, Montana winter wheat producers are expecting a yield of 47 bushels per acre, up 3 bushels from the May 1 forecast, but down 1 bushel from last year's final yield, according to the USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service, Montana Field Office. If realized, the total production would be 101.1 million bushels, 8 percent above last year's 93.6 million bushels. The increase in production is a result of an increase in harvested acreage from 1.95 million acres in 2010 to 2.15 million acres in 2011.

As of June 5, Montana's winter wheat crop condition was about the same as a year ago with 0 percent very poor, 5 percent poor, 27 percent fair, 55 percent good, and 13 percent excellent compared with last year's 1 percent very poor, 6 percent poor, 27 percent fair, 46 percent good, and 20 percent excellent. Montana's crop maturity is behind with 26 percent at the boot stage compared to 48 percent last year and 53 percent for the five-year average.

U.S. winter wheat production is forecast at 1.45 billion bushels, up 2 percent from the May 1 forecast but 2 percent below 2010. Based on June 1 conditions, the U.S. yield is forecast at 45.3 bushels per acre, up 0.8 bushel from last month but 1.5 bushels less than last year. Expected area for harvest as grain or seed totals 32.0 million acres, unchanged from May 1.

Hard Red Winter production, at 777 million bushels, is up 2 percent from a month ago. Soft Red Winter production is up 2 percent from last month and now totals 434 million bushels. White Winter production totals 240 million bushels, up 2 percent from last month. Of this total, 11.6 million bushels are Hard White and 228 million bushels are Soft White.

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